

## Headlines:

DOD & EPA – UNDSVAF Phase II proposal;  
CBP – ACE Cargo Release test for ocean carriers;  
Nantucket Sound – Cape Wind high resolution survey;  
White House – Doyle nominated for full FMC term;  
Gulf of Mexico – natural gas flow stopped;  
BSEE – domestic & international standards workshop;  
St. Croix – ship refloated after grounding on coral reef;  
Oakland – ship anchors after losing propulsion;  
Lake Erie – truck falls through ice;  
USN – christening of second Mobile Landing Platform;  
GAO – assessment of mariner training needs;  
Australia – Abbot Point expansion;  
Panama Canal – talks continue on new locks project; and  
UK – heavy contact with berth.

February 3, 2014



# Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: [dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

*Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Don't underestimate yourself – others will do that for you.*

## **DOD & EPA – UNDSVAF Phase II proposal**



The Department of Defense (DOD) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are proposing performance standards for certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel of the Armed Forces of the United States. The Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces (UNDSVAF) are designed to be consistent with the effluent limitations included in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for discharges incidental to the normal operation of non-military vessels. Comments on the proposal should be submitted by 4 April.

**79 Fed. Reg. 6117** (February 3, 2014). *Note: The major difference between the military and non-military standards is that the military standards preempt state and local law.*

### **CBP – ACE Cargo Release test for ocean carriers**



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that it plans to modify the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test concerning Cargo Release functionality in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). This notice modifies the ACE Cargo Release test to include expansion to the ocean and rail modes of transportation. The test will run until approximately 1 November 2015. **79 Fed. Reg. 6210** (February 3, 2014).

### **Nantucket Sound – Cape Wind high resolution survey**



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that it received an application from Cape Wind Associates for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to pre-construction high resolution survey activities. Comments on the application should be submitted by 5 March. **79 Fed. Reg. 6167** (February 3, 2014).

### **White House – Doyle nominated for full FMC term**



The White House issued a **news release** stating that President Obama intends to nominate various individuals to key administration posts. Among those listed is current FMC Commissioner William P. Doyle, who is being nominated for a full term on the Federal Maritime Commission. (1/31/14).

### **Gulf of Mexico – natural gas flow stopped**



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** stating that the flow of natural gas from the jack-up rig in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana has been stopped by pumping weighted drilling fluids into the well. Additional work is required to fully regain well control. There were no injuries and no visible sheen. The incident is under investigation. (2/1/14).

## BSEE – domestic & international standards workshop



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** stating that it hosted the second annual Domestic and International Standards Workshop in New Orleans. With over 330 attendees, the workshop focused on ways to increase efficiencies in the development of offshore safety and environmental standards. (1/31/14).

## St. Croix – ship refloated after grounding on coral reef



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that the 221-foot cargo vessel Commander has been refloated after grounding on a coral reef outside Christiansted Harbor, St. Croix. There were no reported injuries or pollution, but the ship lost its rudders. Damage to the coral reef is being assessed. The incident is under investigation. (2/1/14).

## Oakland – ship anchors after losing propulsion



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that a container ship near Berth 35 in Oakland anchored after losing propulsion. Two tugs assisted the ship to the pier. The incident is under investigation. (1/31/14).

## Lake Erie – truck falls through ice



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that a truck fell through the ice in Lake Erie near Catawba Island. The two individuals in the truck were able to escape before the truck completely fell through. The Coast Guard is awaiting a salvage plan from the truck's owner. (1/31/14).

## USN – christening of second Mobile Landing Platform



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that Mobile Landing Platform (MLP) John Glenn was christened in San Diego on 1 February. This second MLP will be designated a US Naval Ship (USNS), will be operated by the Military Sealift Command (MSC), and will have a core crew of 34 civilian mariners. It features float-on/float-off technology and allows for 25,000 square feet of vehicle and equipment stowage space and tankage for 100,000 gallons of potable water and 380,000 gallons of JP-5 fuel storage. (1/30/14).

## GAO – assessment of mariner training needs



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report recommending that the Maritime Administration (MARAD) study and identify potential problems in ensuring that US mariners are adequately trained to meet the needs of the entire US maritime industry. The report found that MARAD devotes considerable effort to support the training needs of the oceangoing maritime industry, but minimal effort to support the training needs of the domestic commercial sector. [GAO-14-212](#) (1/31/14).

## Australia – Abbot Point expansion



The Australian Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) issued a [media release](#) stating that it has approved an application by North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation to dispose of dredge spoil at a deepwater location offshore Abbot Point, subject to strict environmental conditions. This project will support expansion of the coal export facility at Abbot Point. (1/31/14). *Note: This issue is controversial because of the proximity of the disposal site to the Great Barrier Reef.*

## Panama Canal – talks continue on new locks project



The Panama Canal Authority issued a [press release](#) stating that its meetings with Zurich American and Grupo Unidos por el Canal, SA continue. The purpose is to further evaluate options to establish alternatives to reach an agreement. (1/28/14).

## UK – heavy contact with berth



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued the report of its investigation of the heavy contact with berth by the ferry Sirena Seaways at the Harwich International Port on 22 June 2013. The impact caused considerable damage to the fore-end of the vessel, including penetrations below the waterline. In addition, there was considerable damage to shoreside structures, particularly the linkspan. It is considered most likely that the button to activate the back-up control system for the starboard propulsion system was inadvertently pressed during the entry into port. This had the effect of bypassing the normal control for that propulsion system, leaving that system set at 63% ahead for the entire approach to the berth, despite efforts of the bridge team to reverse thrust. [Report 6/2014](#) (1/31/14).

## Join our mailing list



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

## Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting  
4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135  
USA

1-352-692-5493

[dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com)

<http://brymar-consulting.com>

© Dennis L. Bryant – February 2014



Redistribution permitted with attribution